

FRIDAY BULLETIN

NEWS FROM THE ALASKA DIVISION OF LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES & MUSEUMS

5/22/2015

This newsletter is available weekly and previous issues are available at <http://lam.alaska.gov/fridaybulletin>.

Submissions for the Friday Bulletin should be sent to linda.thibodeau@alaska.gov and may be edited for content and length if used.

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NEWS FROM THE DIVISION

USE LAM WEBINARS? AVOID CHROME

Webinars from the Alaska State Library, State Archives and State Museums depend on Blackboard Collaborate software, which in turn depends on Java. We recently learned that Google's Chrome browser has changed the way it handles Java and other plug-ins. This change may make it more difficult for you to enable Java and thus successfully join our webinars using Chrome.

The makers of Java are aware of this issue and have put out a FAQ document at <https://java.com/en/download/faq/chrome.xml>. They recommend the use of Firefox, Internet Explorer or Opera to run Java. Since we need Java to present our Blackboard Collaborate webinars, we encourage you to use these same browsers when you attend a Division sponsored event.

Questions about this item can be sent to Internet and Technology Consultant Daniel Cornwall at daniel.cornwall@alaska.gov.

PLEASE WELCOME THORNE BAY VISTA JESSE DRUCKER



We'd like to share this message to the Alaskan LAM community from Jesse Drucker, the newest State Library sponsored VISTA volunteer:

Hello! My name is Jesse Drucker and I'm the new VISTA volunteer in Thorne Bay working for the Thorne Bay Public Library. I was born and raised in a small town named Trinidad buried among the redwoods in far northern California. I traveled east to attend American University in Washington, DC where I primarily studied philosophy and international relations. I've worked on several sustainable farms in North Africa, Europe and the US and got very interested in issues of food access and food justice which quickly evolved into interest in general grassroots social action. I love backpacking, traveling, cooking, playing and listening to music, and books of all kinds. I'm very excited to be here on Prince of Wales Island and would love any and all advice from fellow library workers!

FRIENDS OF SHELDON JACKSON MUSEUM RECEIVES NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS GRANT

Through its grant-making to thousands of nonprofits each year, the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) promotes opportunities for people in communities across America to experience the arts and exercise their creativity.

In the second major grant announcement of fiscal year 2015, the NEA will make a \$20,000 grant award to Friends of Sheldon Jackson Museum to support the Sheldon Jackson Museum's Native Artist Residency Program.

NEA Chairman Jane Chu said, "The NEA is committed to advancing learning, fueling creativity, and celebrating the arts in cities and towns across the United States. Funding these projects like the one from

Sheldon Jackson Museum represents an investment in both local communities and our nation's creative vitality."

Through the Sheldon Jackson Museum's Native Artist Residency Program, artists from around the state fill residencies at the museum, during which time they study the collections and share their work with the public through artist lectures, demonstrations, and hands-on classes.

Artists hosted in the residency program, the museum's artist-led classes and hands on workshops and artist talks will be advertised in flyers distributed around Sitka and available at the Sheldon Jackson Museum, and online at www.friendsofsjm.com, the Friends of Sheldon Jackson Museum Facebook page, and at http://museums.alaska.gov/sheldon_jackson/sjnatedemos.html.

SINCE YOU ASKED: A LOOK BACK AT THE ALASKA STATE MUSEUM, AN ALASKA PURCHASE CENTENNIAL PROJECT

The State Library's blog, Since You Asked, recently [took a look back](#) at the Alaska State Museum, one of a number of Alaska Centennial projects featured in the Division's new book [The View from the Future, 2017: Fifty Years after the Alaska Purchase Centennial](#).

NEWS FROM L.A.M.S IN ALASKA

AND THEY'RE OFF - LOUSSAC GROUNDBREAKING



Figure 1: L - R - Brooks Chandler, Chair, Friends of the Library Mary Jo Torgeson, APL Library Director Alan Czajkowski, Anchorage Maintenance and Operation Director George Vakalis, City Manager Dick Traini, Chair, Assembly Mayor Dan Sullivan

Local dignitaries, library supporters and library staff gathered under overcast skies May 15 for groundbreaking at the Z.J. Loussac Public Library in Anchorage. This 18 month renovation will provide a redesigned and much safer entrance on the south side of the library and will add a drive through book drop on the southwest façade of the library where the groundbreaking took place. The current stairs and patio will be demolished during this project. Staff will especially appreciate not having to use carts to get to the current quartet of outside book drops, which have to be emptied five times a day. It's May - time for horse races and groundbreakings!

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

“SUMMER SLIDE” REDUCED BY LETTING KIDS PICK THEIR OWN SUMMER READING

At the end of the school year, districts often send stacks of books home with their students in the hopes of combating the “summer slide,” the literacy loss experienced during the long break that hits low-income students particularly hard. But a study by researchers at the University of Rochester Medical Center showed that these programs can be made significantly more effective with only a small tweak: Let the kids choose the books...

<http://www.urmc.rochester.edu/news/story/index.cfm?id=4326>

For more about preventing “summer slide”, check out the [Preventing Summer Reading Loss](#) bibliography produced by the Alaska State Library.

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